

SECRET

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3 August 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: Berger Comments on "Green-Gram"

1. The attached cable to me from Ambassador Berger arrived this morning. Berger is quite correct in thinking that recent "Green-Grams" have been drafted in a narrow context. This is a matter of deliberate policy to keep the memoranda innocuous until we get a ruling from Secretary Rogers on his desires in respect to this document as requested in your memorandum to him of 16 July 1969.

2. Berger's reasoning on Laos is entirely plausible. It cannot be proved, but I myself am personally inclined to accept it.

3. The attached cable does not require a substantive answer but I will send Shackley a polite acknowledgement for relay to Berger. As soon as conveniently possible after Rogers' return, we ought to jog him on responding to our request for guidance on the Vietnam talks memoranda.

4. I am sending copies of Berger's cable and this note to General Cushman, Messrs. R.J. Smith, Godfrey, [redacted] Unless you direct otherwise, I plan no additional dissemination of either of these documents.

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George A. Carver, Jr.
Special Assistant for Vietnamese Affairs

Attachment

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O/DCI/SAVA:GACarver/mee

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INTEREST, BUT RECENTLY I HAVE HAD THE FEELING THAT THEY
ARE BEING APPROVED FOR RELEASE 2004/10/28 : CIA-RDP80R01720R000600030018-0
ME THAT THE CENTER OF HANOI'S ATTENTION IS NOW IN LAOS,
THAT THEIR INTENTION IS TO OVERTURN SOUVANNA AND INSTALL
A MORE AMENABLE GOVERNMENT THERE THAT WILL ASK US TO
STOP THE BOMBING AND PERHAPS, ALSO, LEAVE THE COUNTRY. I
NEED NOT SPELL OUT FOR YOU THE MILITARY, POLITICAL AND
PSYCHOLOGICAL EFFECTS ON VIETNAM AND PARIS. IT SEEMS TO
ME THAT THEY ARE TREADING WATER IN PARIS, WHILE THEY PLAY
THE LAOTIAN CARD."

2. AMBASSADOR GODLEY WAS IN SAIGON ON 5 AND 6 AUGUST AND
HIS VISIT HEIGHTENED AMBASSADOR BERGER'S INTEREST IN LAOS.

PAGE 2 SCSAIGON 967 S E C R E T/HANDLE VIA COMINT CHANNELS ONLY
PARA ONE SEEMS TO REPRESENT A SYNTHESIS OF HIS CURRENT POSITION.
AMBASSADOR BERGER ADDED THAT HE WOULD BE PUTTING HIS VIEWS
THROUGH HIS OWN CHANNELS IN NEXT FEW DAYS BUT THOUGHT YOU MIGHT
LIKE TO HAVE A PREVIEW OF WHAT HE NOW BELIEVES HIS
POSITION WILL BE.

S E C R E T/HANDLE VIA COMINT CHANNELS ONLY